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BONN SOON THIRD A-BOMB POWER

The West German Wehrmacht, commanded by Hitler's generals, is becoming the third-strongest atomic armament force in the world, after the Soviet Union and the USA.

This sensational fact was disclosed on August 20th by "The Times", London, which stated:

"The Bundeswehr has taken an unprecedented step in demanding, in a direct appeal to the public, nuclear weapons to meet any possible form of military conflict, and it must be assumed that it has nothing less in mind than the Polaris missile. **Already it has acquired, or has on order, more tactical nuclear weapons than the British or French armies."**

Since only five states — the Soviet Union, USA, Britain, France and West Germany — are at present equipped with nuclear weapons, this means that West Germany now takes third place in world military power.

"Is Adenauer a nazi too?" "No, he just shields us"

(From "Strshel", Sofia)

The "appeal to the public" mentioned in the "Times" article, took the form of a memorandum, drawn up by the West German General Staff and published on August 19th. The memorandum outlined the military and political conception of the General Staff, exclusively composed of men who served in responsible positions in the nazi forces. It constituted the first post-war public intervention of this group in the political arena.

Here are a few extracts from the memorandum, which aroused a storm of protest in many parts of the world:

"The German people, through their appointed representatives, have given the Bundeswehr the task of defending their rights and their liberty . . . The Bundeswehr cannot do this without conscription, membership in NATO, and atomic armament . . .

"Unilateral renunciation of atomic arms would mean that the Federal Republic could not be defended . . . Our sense of responsibility for the soldiers entrusted to us forces us to demand atomic arms, which are indispensable. The Bundeswehr must have the same effective arms as the allied shielding forces . . .

"The military part of our task is general conscription. The tasks of civil defence and the growing strength of the Bundeswehr will make necessary the military training of all citizens capable of bearing arms."

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Here are potted biographies of the men who drafted the West

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German General Staff memorandum:

Vice-Admiral Friedrich Ruge, Inspector of the West German Naval Staff. Served Hitler as naval commander in attack on Poland, and later as admiral on staff of Field Marshal Kesselring, convicted war criminal.

Lieutenant-General Josef Kammhuber, Inspector of the West German Luftwaffe Staff. Under the nazis commanded the crack "Edelweiss" bomber squadron, and later commanded the nazi Luftwaffe in North Norway, which attacked the allied Murmansk convoys.

Major-General Alfred Zerbel, Inspector of the West German Army Staff. Took part as nazi colonel in the attack on the Soviet Union.

The "Frankfurter Rundschau" leading liberal West German newspaper, commented on August 21st:

"In the past the German army has played a disastrous role in German politics ... This weekend, the revived German General Staff has taken the first step towards calling down nemesis once again on the German people. The leadership of the Federal Army has published a memorandum calling for conscription, NATO membership, and atom arms for the Federal Army, as the foundations for effective defence. Heusinger, Ruge, Kammhuber and Zerbel, who all held responsible posts in Adolf Hitler's Wehrmacht, have thus led the Federal Army along a path which disregards the lessons taught by two total catastrophes in the political and military fields.

"This memorandum, its contents, and the way in which it was published, are a continuation of the worst traditions of the German General Staff ... Never before have the opponents of German rearmament in the west, the east, and here at home, had such sound grounds for their criticisms and their rejection.

"In the field of home policy this memorandum constitutes clear support for the Federal Government and the Christian Democratic Union, and electoral help for the ruling party, since the three 'demands' made by the military leadership have already been implemented. In the foreign policy field the memorandum contributes to sharpening the international situation, and it will undoubtedly increase the view that the Federal Republic is a breeding ground for aggressive militarism ...

"The fact is that the German generals are once again repeating their historic mistakes which have plunged our people into disaster twice in this century. The spirit which runs through this document is a mixture of militarist vanity and National Socialist propaganda. It is the same spirit which we saw recently in the testimony given by General von Hobe, Heusinger's General Staff Chief, in the trial of SS General Simon, in which von Hobe stated: 'Civilians take a second place: first of all come the troops' ... Put concisely, this is the same German evil spirit which we started to overcome after 1945, but which dominates West Germany again today.

"One does not need to be a prophet to see where this leads. At one time people said optimistically that Bonn was not Weimar. Now it appears that Bonn is slowly becoming worse than Weimar, since in the Weimar Republic the Generals intervened in politics in opposition to the government, while today they are doing it with the approval and support of the government."

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"The Times", London, stated on August 22nd, under the heading "Keep Them Out of It":

"The publication of a pamphlet by the Bundeswehr leaders demanding that their forces should be equipped with nuclear weapons to meet all possible forms of military conflict is a serious matter. Such a definition is bound to include the Polaris missile, the possible introduction of which into Europe has already caused controversy. The objection to it is that it is unsuitable for NATO defence because it is a total war weapon ... But it does not matter greatly which weapons the Bundeswehr leaders have in mind in their pamphlet.

"Most disquieting is that the German generals appear to be telling the political leadership what must be done. It is only four years since the 'Soldatengesetz', the legal basis for the new Bundeswehr, was approved. One of its main aims was to prevent the army from ever again becoming a state within the state. The Bundeswehr leaders may say that they are not entering into politics, but to tell the political leadership publicly what weapons are required and what strategy must be followed looks dangerously like politics. Many people, inside as well as outside Germany, will hope that the Federal German Government will repudiate the Bundeswehr pamphlet and dispel the uncomfortable memories it arouses."

What is a Bonn Denial Worth?

On July 19th 1960, the Soviet Government officially protested to West Germany about plans to equip the West German armed forces with "Polaris" strategic nuclear weapons.

On August 17th 1960, the West German Government dispatched an official reply, stating: "The allegations made (in the Soviet Note) must be most strongly rejected."

On August 19th 1960, the West German General Staff, with the full approval of the West German Defence Ministry, published a memorandum calling for the equipment of the Wehrmacht with "weapons equal to those of its NATO allies". This automatically includes strategic nuclear weapons.

Footnote:

On August 26th West German Chancellor Adenauer, after talks with Defence Minister Franz-Josef Strauss, announced that he "agrees fully" with the memorandum published by the nazi generals.

"A Pity Nazis Had No A-Bombs"

The West German semi-official military monthly "Wehrkunde" (Military Science) expressed regret in its August issue that the nazis had not had nuclear weapons. An article in the magazine stated:

"If only the Germans had had atomic weapons at that time they would have been able to atomise the enemy supply dumps in southern England, and the supply ports on the southern English and northern French coasts. They would also have been able to smash the big supply bases in France and the key centres of enemy traffic."

Military observers in East Berlin pointed out that the new West German Wehrmacht is now supplied with nuclear weapons capable of carrying out just such tasks.

When it Rains, it Pours

By Allen Mann

How would this year's harvest turn out? That was the big question in the minds of hundreds of thousands of people in Democratic Germany this year. Firstly, because one of the aims of the present Seven Year Plan is to make the GDR independent of agricultural imports; and secondly, because this was the first harvest since all farmers joined to form cooperative farms early this year. Many had joined on the following basis: "We are not fully convinced about the cooperatives, but it is claimed that our lives will get better if we join. Good, we will join, but we want to see proof of that."

The whole further development of agriculture depended therefore more than ever on this first cooperative harvest. And long-run improvements in the living standard were closely tied up with it.

So everybody was happy to see how well the crops were growing and flourishing this year. The wide fields of ripening grain were very impressive indeed.

Until the rains came. It seemed that every day there was a new rainstorm. And although farmers love rain when the crops are growing, they don't like it at all when harvest time comes, for wet grain cannot be harvested, and if it remains uncut too long, it begins to sprout and eventually to rot and turn black.

The rains fell equally heavily in both parts of Germany, East and West. But quite different steps were taken to meet the situation.

In West Germany, when farmers went to the Minister of Agriculture in Bonn, they were told that it was absurd to expect the Government to solve their problems for them. Since the more prosperous farmers have the equipment to harvest their crops quickly and efficiently, the situation was particularly difficult for the small farmers, and it is expected that many new thousands of them will be forced to abandon farming again this year.

In Democratic Germany, the Government promised to do everything possible to help. Backed up by the press, the radio and TV, it has certainly gone out of its way to keep this promise.

Local community councils organised groups of volunteers from the villages to help the farmers whenever weather permitted. In the cities, workers, students, office workers and government employees were asked to help out, especially on weekends. This was nothing new to city-dwellers, who in the past have often helped the farmers picking potatoes or at other tasks, but it had never been done on this scale before. Over the weekend of August 20th and 21st, 500,000 people in all parts of the country went out to the farms to help in cutting and bringing in the crops — together with the farmers they reaped grain from about 250,000 acres of land and cleared almost 400,000 acres of the cut grain.

This was not easy work for the volunteers, of course, and there were not a few back-aches and blisters as a result. But it was also a kind of lark, with a truck ride, lots of joking and a bit of country air as recompense.

One other group also helped the farmers in Democratic Germany with their crops. The People's Army was mobilised — not for military manoeuvres but for a much more productive activity. Taking all available trucks and tractors with them, they pitched in with all the other people.

It is worth noting here that it was not only the rank and file which was mobilised. On Sunday, August 21st a large part of the Defence Ministry pitched in with the harvesting campaign, too — right up to General Heinz Hoffmann, the Spanish International Brigade veteran who is now Defence Minister, and Vice-Admiral Waldemar Verner, the Deputy Minister of Defence.

This permitted another comparison with West Germany. When Defence Minister Strauss in West Germany was asked to send soldiers to help in a situation nearing disaster proportions for very many small farmers, he answered: "Our army isn't a charity outfit to help farmers." Later, after massive protests by the farmers, who pointed to the example given by the People's Army in the GDR, the Defence Ministry changed its position — soldiers might help the farmers on a local basis, but only if the farmers paid the Army 11 marks (almost £1) per day per man, with rations. This was more than small farmers could afford.

In Democratic Germany — where all help was on a voluntary basis — the press has been treating the whole harvesting campaign almost like a major sports event or even a battle, with daily communiques on how much grain remains to be cut or cleared in each county of the country, which areas need more help, and which district has challenged which other district to compete in finishing the job the soonest.

August 28th was the goal set for completing the whole grain harvest, and as that date approached it looked as if the whole grain crop would be safe and dry by then. Looking ahead, everyone was hoping that the weather would improve by the time the potato, maize and sugar beet harvests were due in the autumn months.

As for the cooperative farmers — some of the new members may have been somewhat disappointed that the whole harvest could not be achieved with modern combines as yet this year — the bad weather made it necessary to use every kind of tractor-drawn or even horse-drawn reaper available. But most of the new co-operators have realised that if they had still been individual farmers this season there would have been a near-catastrophe for them. As it is, they not only worked together on their larger, more rational farms, but they helped their neighbours on the next farm in an organised way, too, or were helped in their turn. And when one district or county was finished with most of its harvesting and the crisis was past, it rushed its combines and other equipment on to other areas which had fallen behind, even if they were several hundreds of miles away. Faced with an emergency, cooperation and central planning saved the day — and many thousands of tons of valuable grain.

GDR Docs to Congo

A group of 13 doctors and nurses from Democratic Germany landed in Léopoldville, Congo, on August 19th in answer to appeals by international Red Cross organisations for medical aid to the troubled young republic. The group brought medical supplies worth 100,000 marks (more than £8000).

In Lodgings in Leipzig

The "Daily Telegraph", London, printed on August 4th and 5th two long articles by Anthony Rhodes, who had spent twelve days living with a family in Leipzig in the German Democratic Republic. Here are some of the points he made in the two articles:

"Hoping to learn something from the people of East Germany, I asked, on my return there last month, if I might spend the visit not touring the country as I had before, but living on my own in an industrial area, preferably with a private family. My request was granted — which is a sign of the régime's growing confidence.

"I was allowed to choose a family from the list of those who let rooms in Leipzig, and in this way spent 12 days in the suburbs, in the household of a printer and his wife. The wife also acted as handy-woman in the local slaughterhouse, which meant that they both earned fair salaries. Their five-roomed flat was furnished with the decent modesty and taste of a Swiss boarding-house . . .

"The most striking feature in my domestic life was the educational system. Many students came to the flat to visit my host's daughter, who was a medical undergraduate; and I observed that their education is more humanist than we imagine. Some were Communists, some not, but all appeared to have a good general education. They had first undergone, of course, a thorough grounding in Marxist-Leninism; but unlike Old Bolsheviks I have met, they were reasonable in their arguments.

"I met students from the Greek, Latin and French Literature Faculties of Leipzig University, as well as those studying technical subjects. The students of the Humanities regretted that they could not visit the Mediterranean, generally attributing this to their country's lack of foreign currency. (Certain more daring spirits admitted, when prodded, that the West was also likely to have a very 'unhealthy' effect on them. They spoke with great scorn, for instance, of American films.)

"The East German Government is spending so much on educating these children of the working-class that the Devil's Advocate may well ask how the national budget can stand it. Was it, I wondered, really worth while to finance trips to China for three undergraduates I met? Was it really necessary to pay a full-time Professor of Old Armenian at the University? (Surely modern Armenian would do.) . . . Or to subsidise, with such vast sums as one million marks a year, all the small provincial opera houses, like the one in Zwickau?

"The performances are excellent. But such insistence on Culture, such a public outlay on Education (all education, higher as well as primary, is free in East Germany), would surely make our British Treasury officials have a fit.

"One must not forget that, good as this educational programme is, it is addressed to the working classes, and it often discriminates unfairly against the bourgeoisie . . .

"Sometimes, the social habits in the family I stayed with — the distinction between bourgeois and working class — formed an interesting contrast with ours in Britain. Whereas in Britain most people have the amiable pretension of being of good birth, 'gentlemen', 'ladies' and so on, here it is smart to be of base extraction.

"You will hear a student saying proudly, 'Of course, my father was a coal-heaver. Yours was a drayman, wasn't he?' and so forth. Everyone purrs and feels at home in the company of such honest workers' sons and daughters . . ."

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In his second article, the "Daily Telegraph" correspondent criticised what he described as a "campaign of hate" against Bonn and the West German Government, but emphasised that the people of the GDR were not preparing for offensive war. He continued:

". . . there is little enough evidence that these people are being trained for war. Gone are the Hitlerian days when war was depicted as noble and glorious. On the contrary, the East German Government is at pains to decry and ridicule war to-day, sometimes in an almost pacifist manner.

"Films about the last war, such as 'Ballade vom Soldaten', now showing all over East Germany, reveal only the beastliness and futility of war. (The film critic in the Neues Deutschland, the main party newspaper, concludes his long review, '. . . excellent film teaches us to hate war with all our force.')

"Enlarged photographs, on stands in the main streets of provincial towns, show the corpses laid out at Lidice or Oradour, with the legend beneath, 'This is what *German* war brings, Beware!' The Army is not allowed to wear medals, even those gained for heroism, from the last war.

"In education, East German schoolbooks pay little attention to the heroics of Frederick the Great and his successors. They describe Shaftesbury's Factory Act in England as more glorious than our joint victory, with the Germans, at Waterloo.

Turning to the question of West Berlin, Anthony Rhodes stated:

"For a year and a half now, the East German leaders have been anxiously expecting a change in West Berlin — initiated by Russia. Nothing has contributed more to their economic difficulties since the war than this hybrid city.

"Here, thrust like a hypodermic syringe into the very heart of their Communist State, is a little sac of poison. Not only does it facilitate Western espionage, but its Black Market, well bolstered by dollars, continually depreciates their currency. The great American sky-scraper hotel, leering over the city boundary, perpetually beckons, reminding their people that there are other 'Paradises' besides the Communist one.

"There was a moment last year when it seemed that the Western Allies might make some 'arrangement', even a minor one, over Berlin . . . But Dr. Adenauer, who is beginning to flex his muscles, does not believe in the Dove of Peace. A few months ago, he threw the growing weight of West Germany into the scales against any 'arrangement' . . . The reasons for the hate against Adenauer are clear enough."

GDR Consulates in Indonesia, Burma

Indonesia and the German Democratic Republic will open Consulates General in Berlin and Jakarta, it was officially announced on August 20th. The agreement followed the visit to Indonesia of an official GDR delegation, led by Max Sefrin, Deputy Prime Minister.

It was officially announced in Berlin on August 27th that Burma and the GDR would also exchange Consulates General in the near future.

DR GLOBKE'S FILE

The Story of a Murderous Bureaucrat

The shabby tattered file shown on the right was recently discovered amongst huge stacks of nazi documents in the archives of the German Democratic Republic. This file, the personal and confidential file of the old German Ministry of the Interior on a certain Dr Hans Globke, shows beyond any shadow of doubt that this gentleman was one of the key figures in the nazi campaign to liquidate the Jews.

From April 14th 1924 until the end of the war, Dr Hans Globke made himself a successful career in the German Ministry of the Interior, first under the Weimar Republic and later under Hitler and Himmler. Today he is State Secretary to West German Chancellor Adenauer, and is generally considered to be the second most influential man in the West German state.

January 30th 1933: Hitler became German Chancellor.

December 27th 1933: Globke was promoted to Chief Government Counsellor in the nazi Ministry of the Interior.

May 23rd 1934: Globke was appointed "Referent" (responsible specialist) for constitutional questions, birth, marriage and death registration, and changing of names.

September 15th 1935: Hitler promulgated the nazi racialist decrees known as the "Nuremberg Laws" at the Nazi Party Convention in Nuremberg. These laws formed the basis for the segregation of the Jews in Germany as second-class citizens, and were the first step to the gas-chambers. One of these laws, "The Law for the Protection of German Blood and German Honour", banned marriages between Jews and "nationals of German or related blood"; invalidated all marriages contracted despite the ban; and prohibited extra-marital relations between Jews and Germans.

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"Chief Government Counsellor Dr Globke is undoubtedly one of the most capable and hard-working officials in my Ministry. He played an outstanding part in the drafting of the following laws: a. The Law for the Protection of German Blood and German Honour of September 15th 1935 ..."

(Letter from Dr Wilhelm Frick, nazi Minister of the Interior, to Hitler's Deputy Rudolf Hess on April 25th 1938)

1936: Dr Globke wrote the semi-official legal commentary to the Nuremberg Racial Laws of 1935, together with his immediate boss in the Ministry of the Interior, SS General Wilhelm Stuckart, later convicted as a war criminal by an American military court. Here are some quotations from Dr Globke's legal commentary:

"Since the Jewish people are, both in their blood and their inner character, of a completely different type from the German people, tension between the two is the necessary result of the fact that Jews live scattered throughout the German Reich ...

"The two Nuremberg Laws, together with the regulations based upon them, contain the basic solution for this racial problem ... Their basic importance consists in the fact that they prevent, for all time, the penetration of further Jewish blood into the German folk-body ...

"It is thus made impossible for all time for Jews to mix with German folkness, or to intervene in the political, economical and cultural life of the Reich ...

"The Jewish problem is not just a racial-biological problem. It must also be solved for the centuries to come in the political, economic and sociological fields ...

"Alien race is a mark particularly of the Jews, who form an alien body in all European nations ... They must be refused recognition as Reich citizens ..."

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"Because of the extraordinary importance of these laws ... the Commentary on them in a condensed form and in a single volume is of great advantage ... Everything needed for practical application of the laws has been included here ... No judge's or lawyer's library should be without this book."

Roland Freisler, top nazi judge, President of the nazi "People's Court" (in "Deutsche Justiz", 1936, p. 587)

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January 5th 1938: The Law for the Changing of Family and Given Names was passed. Under this law all Jews who did not already have one of a list of "Jewish" given names were compelled to add the name "Israel" or "Sara" to their names. Failure to use this additional name was punishable with a jail sentence. All such compulsory changes of names had to be registered with the police, which could thus compile a complete list of people to be deported later to the death camps.

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"Dr Globke played an outstanding part in the drafting of the following laws: ... d. The Law for the Changing of Family and Given Names of January 5th 1938 ...

(Letter from Dr Wilhelm Frick, nazi

Minister of the Interior, to Hitler's Deputy Rudolf Hess on April 25th 1938)

Dr v. Stackelberg: Did you have anything to do with drafting the laws relating to change of names?

Globke: I was responsible for name changing and I worked out everything which had anything to do with changes of names.

(From "Trial of War Criminals before the Nuremberg Military Tribunals, the Ministries Case (Case XI)" Official transcript, p. 15,465)

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January 31st 1938: "It is always worthy of consideration when a child from a tribe which is biologically and in its heredity inferior receives the name of a tribe which is perfect biologically and in its heredity ..."

Dr Hans Globke, "The Right of Changing Names" (in an article in "Deutsche Verwaltung", p. 51 fol.)

April 25th 1938: In his letter to Rudolf Hess, already quoted above, Minister Wilhelm Frick wrote:

"Because of his previous long membership in the Centrum Party, Dr Globke has not yet been proposed for promotion to the post of Ministerial Counsellor. But because of his proved loyalty and constant readiness for all work since the National Socialist Party came to power I believe it urgently necessary to promote him to Ministerial Counsellor in recognition of his very distinguished activity ..."

May 17th 1938: Letter from Hitler's office: "In the name of the Deputy to the Fuehrer I inform you that the promotion of Chief Government Counsellor Globke to the post of Ministerial Counsellor is approved. Heil Hitler."

Globke Today

September 17th 1938: Globke conferred in Berne with Swiss police authorities on ways of keeping Jews from fleeing from Germany to Switzerland. He spoke of the possibility of stamping the passes of Jews in some manner which would make them unmistakeable and thus permit their exclusion.

October 11th 1938: "By decision of the Herr Minister of the Interior ... all German passports held by Jews will become invalid ... The passports will become valid again when stamped ... with a special mark which shows the owners to be Jews ... The mark is a red 'J', three centimetres in height, which is to be stamped in the upper left corner of page 1 ..."

(Details on this decision and Globke's part in it in "Das Dritte Reich und seine Diener" — by Léon Poliakov and Josef Wulf, Arani Publishers, West Berlin, 1956)

December 7th 1938: Dr Globke was awarded the "Medal in Memory of March 13th", the date of Hitler's occupation of Austria, in recognition of "special services" — transferring the Nuremberg Racial Laws and later anti-Semitic legislation to Austria. Minister of the Interior Frick, in his letter of April 25th 1938, quoted above, stated:

"Globke's cooperation in the reunification of Austria with the German Reich deserves recognition."

December 27th 1938: "Decree on the Introduction of the Nuremberg Laws into the Sudeten German Areas" was announced. Soon after, Globke received the "Medal in Memory of October 1st 1938" which was granted only to people with "special merits" in the dismemberment of Czechoslovakia.

January 1939: A personnel list for inner-office use in the nazi Interior Ministry listed Globke as "Referent" (responsible official) or as "Co-Referent" for the following sections:

General Race Question.
Jewish Question, general themes.
Jewish Question, specific cases.
Position of Non-Jews with Alien Blood.
Law on Protection of the Blood, general and specific cases.

June 29th 1939: "Herr Dr Adolf Siedler and Herr Dr Hans Globke are hereby empowered in the name of the German Reich to negotiate jointly or singly with plenipotentiary representatives of the Lithuanian Government on a treaty determining nationality questions involved with the return of the Memel area (to Germany, ed.).

Berchtesgaden ...
signed: Adolf Hitler

September 1939: After Hitler's declaration of war and the invasion of Poland, Globke was made responsible for the departmental sections on nationality questions in Danzig, Posen and West Prussia (all occupied areas).

January 29th 1940:

"To the Military Conscription Office
Berlin-Schoeneberg ...

"... Dr Globke cannot be spared. He is in charge of the questions of nationality arising from the establishment of the Protectorate (in Czechoslovakia), the annexation of the eastern territories ... and the re-settlement actions (expulsion of Poles from German-annexed territory and concentration of Polish Jews in ghettoes from which they were later sent to the death camps, the ed.) I must therefore view his civilian occupation as **urgent** and request that he not be conscripted for military service."

(Letter from Ministry of the Interior)

January 1941: Globke assumed the Interior Ministry posts responsible for "The New Order in the West: Denmark and Norway".

November 15th 1941: Globke was awarded the "silver merit award for faithful service" by Hitler.

January 1943: Globke was assigned responsibility for the following additional occupied territories in the Sub-Department "New Order in the West": Netherlands, Luxembourg, Alsace-Lorraine, Eupen-Malmedy.

January 15th 1945: Under Heinrich Himmler, founder of the Gestapo and the SS and new Minister of the Interior, Globke's power had increased greatly, especially after all officials of doubtful loyalty had been purged following the July 1944 attempt to assassinate Hitler. An internal organisational chart issued on this date shows Globke now responsible for liaison between Himmler's Interior Ministry and Goering, Hitler's Reich Chancellory, the Foreign Ministry and the Wehrmacht Supreme Command. He was also responsible for personnel questions in the Interior Ministry. In all, he was in charge of 30 different departmental sections.

May 8th 1945: Nazi armies defeated. Germany capitulated, Dr Hans Globke's career was temporarily interrupted.

After a brief stay in a Roman Catholic monastery and an even briefer stay in the Ministerial Collecting Centre of Hessisch Lichtenau (an internment centre), Globke was able to get a foothold in public life again by offering to become a witness against his old superior in the Interior Ministry, Dr Wilhelm Stuckart, in the Nuremberg Trials. It was with Stuckart that he had written the commentary to the Nuremberg Laws. During this trial he stated:

Globke: "I knew that the Jews were being killed in large numbers, and I was always of the opinion that there were Jews who were still living in Germany, or in Theresienstadt, or elsewhere, in a sort of ghetto."

Question: (By defence counsel) "You thought that there were executions but no systematic extermination?"

Globke: "No, I did not want to say that. I am of the opinion, and I knew that at the time, that the extermination of the Jews was carried on systematically, but I did not know that it was supposed to apply to all Jews." *(Volume XIV, P. 642)*

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The guilty verdict against Stuckart, Globke's superior and collaborator, included the following words:

"The laws and decrees drafted or approved by Stuckart were without doubt an essential part of the programme aimed at almost completely annihilating the Jews, a programme which was achieved. If the commanders of the death camps ... if the people who carried out the orders to evacuate the Jews to the east are put on trial, found guilty and punished ... then certainly the men who took part in this campaign in their quiet offices in the Ministries by drafting the decrees and instructions for carrying it out are just as guilty."

But Globke escaped punishment, and his career commenced again. For three years he served simply as City Treasurer in Aachen. Then he moved up to become Vice-President of the North Rhine-Westfalian Court of Accounts in Dusseldorf, and then, after the Federal Republic had been formed in West Germany, he started work in Adenauer's Federal Chancellory in Bonn.

On July 4th 1950 he became the Director of the Ministerial Department and Personnel Chief in the Federal Chancellory, and finally, in 1953, he reached the pinnacle of his career as State Secretary in the Chancellory, Konrad Adenauer's right-hand man and thus probably the second-most important man in all West Germany, especially since Adenauer has reduced his Cabinet largely to a body of yes-men.

Questioned by a reporter on June 17th 1960, Globke claimed to have stayed at his post in the Interior Ministry to help "half-Jews" and "quarter-Jews" and to play a part in resisting Hitler.

But several years earlier, after being criticised privately by Hans-Joachim Unger, chairman of an organisation of nazi victims, for writing the Commentary to the Nuremberg Laws, he said: "Herr Unger, we are both Christians, and we know that we have both done wrong." (Quoted in "Der Spiegel", Hamburg, August 10th 1960).

The reason why Globke is still in office is that Konrad Adenauer relies completely on him. He expressed these feelings on May 31st 1951 as follows: "I shall not allow any attacks on my honour or the honour of Ministerial Director Globke ... I have scarcely ever known an official of such loyalty and objectivity as Herr Globke."

SS Officers in Plain Clothes

Scores of former black-uniformed SS officers have gone into plain clothes to dominate the detective section of the police in North Rhine Westphalia, West Germany's most populous and most highly industrialised province.

A listing of the backgrounds of the detective police commanders in the main cities of the province, published in the "Berliner Zeitung" of August 24th, showed that in most centres old SS officers hold the key posts. Here is a summary of this listing:

Cologne: Chief of detective police — Karl Kiehne, formerly SS Major in Himmler's Reich Security Main Office. Nine of his subordinates were SS majors or captains.

Aachen: Chief of detective police — Braunschmidt, formerly SS Major in Reich Security main Office.

Duisburg: Chief of detective police — Dr Bartmann, formerly SS Captain.

Dusseldorf: Chief of detective police — Dr Wehner, formerly SS Major in Reich Security Main Office.

Gelsenkirchen: Chief of Detective police — Dr Schulze, formerly SS Major.

Essen: Chief of detective police — Dr Eweler, formerly SS Major. Deputy chief — Dr Keunecke, formerly SS Major, Gestapo commander in Zhitomir, occupied Soviet Union.

Krefeld: Chief of detective police — Dr Bartmann, formerly SS Major.

Opladen: Chief of detective police — Erich Preckel, formerly SS Major.

Leverkusen: Chief of detective police — Franz Settels, formerly SS Major in Reich Security Main Office.

Dortmund: Chief of detective police — Dr Menke, formerly SS Major in Reich Security Main Office.

Moenchen-Gladbach: Chief of detective police — Junge, formerly SS Major.

Muelheim-Ruhr: Chief of detective police — Guenter Hellving, formerly SS Captain. After the war a British court sentenced him to two years imprisonment for war crimes.

Radio Berlin International

News and views from the German Democratic Republic are broadcast daily by Radio Berlin International on the following wavelengths:

30.83 metres = 9730 kcs
41.10 metres = 7300 kcs
49.06 metres = 6115 kcs

The times of the programmes are as follows:

ENGLISH: 18.00, 20.00, 22.00 GMT
FRENCH: 18.30, 20.30, 22.30 GMT
SWEDISH: 17.00, 19.30, 21.30 GMT
DANISH: 17.30, 19.00, 21.00 GMT

Programmes in Arabic are broadcast on wavelength 30.83 metres from 04.00–06.00 GMT and from 11.00–13.00 GMT.

Notes on Nazis

The local government of the West German province of Baden-Wuerttemberg, under heavy public pressure, announced recently that it would set up a special commission to investigate the past records of nazi judges who were back in office again. At the end of August an official spokesman announced that it had been impossible to establish such an commission, since all professors of law at the universities of the province had refused to serve as commission members.

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Swastikas were painted on the newly-opened museum in the former Dachau Concentration Camp in West Germany on August 11th, and visitors to the museum were harassed by a young man shouting neo-fascist slogans. After repeated protests police intervened, and arrested 25-year-old Martin Fiedler, son of a former SS guard at the concentration camp. Before his arrest Fiedler declared: "If Hitler was still in power, I would be an important man today."

GUEST NOTEBOOK

By Allen Mann

One of the nicest achievements of the German Democratic Republic and its trade unions is the vacation system. Well over a million people every year can go for two week holidays to special hotels and homes in the mountains, in the lake areas or at the seaside. Since many people spend their holidays in their own gardens, visiting relatives, tenting and hosteling or visiting other countries, this means that every trade union member who wants one can get a holiday check for himself and his family at least every two or three years, and often every year.

Since a fortnight at such a holiday home only costs 30 marks per member (less than two days' pay for most workers) and since there is a 1/3 train fare reduction to and from one's destination, going on holiday is often cheaper than staying at home, except of course for those who like to go on a binge every night.

Of course, there is always stiff competition in the factories and offices to get the most desirable spots — those on Democratic Germany's small Baltic seashore strip — preferably in July or August.

This year my wife and I and our 4-year-old son were among the lucky ones. After taking the five hour train trip northward to the coast, we changed over to one of the little narrow-gauge lines which bring the holiday-goers to the different resort towns in the seashore area — and later bring them back again. It is a tradition for those returning from two weeks at the beach to wave their tanned arms in melancholy farewell at the pale but happy city-dwellers who will take their places as the little trains pass each other.

As in previous years at the beach, as soon as we received our room and had disposed of our luggage — into the nearest corner — and our youngster — into the nearest bed — we secured for ourselves the prime necessity at every beach here — the rights and keys to the traditional German "Strandkorb" or, literally, beach basket. This is a big, two-seated beach-chair, made of wickerware, wood and waterproof cloth, which provides protection against the sun if desired (while reading or overly sun-burned), against strong Baltic breezes — often more evident than the sun — and against the showers which may suddenly descend upon one at all times. It has a little roof, walls, two foot-rests and a small board usually used for snacks or writing picture post-cards, and it offers a sort of semi-privacy when changing into and out of one's wet bathing suit — if one is very dexterous with a bathrobe.

There were lots of foreign visitors this year — most of them "delegations" of trade union members. Besides small groups from Britain, France, Poland and Italy there were much larger groups from Bulgaria, the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia — here on an exchange basis. Since our strandkorb on the beach was almost surrounded by those of Bulgarians and Russians, I had to scrape together every last bit of nearly forgotten Russian if I wanted to communicate with my neighbours at all.

Of course, the foreign visitors did not spend all of their time on the beach — they also took trips to nearby cooperative farms or factories, they visited the little Gorky Museum — the house where the writer lived in 1922 and, after leaving the seashore, they visited Berlin, Potsdam, Leipzig or Dresden.

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A feature of the beach "programme" which is completely new this year is the calisthenics. Every morning at 9:30 a loudspeaker would start up with piano music and the vacationers would gather at a central area near the life-guard tower for a half-hour of "morning sport". I was amazed to see how quickly the people took to it — every day between 100 and 200 would gather, line up in loose rows and go through the exercises, accompanied by the piano and the explanations of a young gymnastics instructor, who used just the right light tone with a bit of humour mixed in to prevent the exercises from being a serious occasion. This possibility was ruled out anyway by the composition of the group — teen-agers with pony-tails did deep knee bends next to stout elderly women, otherwise dignified men lay in the sand on their backs and did kicking exercises next to children of all ages — ranging right down to the toddlers who played in the sand or stared with amazement at the antics of their elders. In the row in front of me were also a cute Russian girl and a portly Bulgarian who didn't understand a word of the explanations but nevertheless bravely tried to keep up with the rest.

Many did not take part, naturally, but the number of participants increased each day of the two weeks. I think the pleasant, friendly atmosphere was largely responsible. After the last chords of music died away, people returned to their bathing, volley-ball or snoozing in the sun with a very satisfied feeling.

This seaside calisthenics is part of a nation-wide campaign for good health through sports, which includes ten minute calisthenics breaks in factories, regular meets between sport stars and youngsters, where the top athletes give tips and help to the racers, jumpers or football players of the future, and widespread popularisation of a little jingle which advocates at least a bit of sports every week for everyone.

There is one negative feature on many beaches in Democratic Germany, I am afraid. That is the so-called "beach radio" — big loudspeakers erected at regular intervals along the beach, which blare out music for hours on end, loud enough to prevent one from hearing the waves or just about anything else. This scourge is even worse than the portable radios now so widespread here, for one can run away from someone carrying a portable radio.

More and more people are up in arms against the beach radios, and I think they will win out over the people who can't live without popular tunes assaulting their ear drums. At the beach where I was, for example, there had been some success in the struggle, and the beach radio was used only for an occasional warning about bathing in dangerous areas or to announce that a three-year-old in a blue playsuit or a two-year-old in nothing at all had gotten lost and was looking for his mommy and daddy (or vice-versa).

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Of course, there was more to do than just recline on the beach or do calisthenics. Boat trips along the coast, hiking routes, cafés and the cinema were always available, and then there were visits by theatre and musical groups of all kinds, puppet performances for the children, amateur evenings, dances and travel lectures with films or slides. Some of these are popular, some not at all, but no-one ever complains of boredom — but only that the two weeks pass by so quickly. Only too soon comes the long, sad trip to the flat in the city, still showing evidence of the mad dash to gather all one's luggage and catch the train to the holiday at the beach.

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